Province of Alberta

The Twenty-third Annual Report

of the

Chief Electoral Officer

The Election Finances and contributions Disclosure Act
for the Calendar Year of 1999

101-01953/

Alberta Legislative Assembly
Office of the Chief Electoral Officer

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November 30, 2000

The Honourable Ken Kowalski
Speaker of the Legislative Assembly
325 Legislature Building
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2B6

Dear Mr. Speaker:

It is an honour to submit to the Legislative Assembly through you, Mr. Speaker, the Twenty-third Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer concerning the administration of the Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act for the calendar year 1999.

This Report is submitted pursuant to Section 3(2) of the Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 1980, Chapter E-3.

Should you require clarification or additional information, I would be pleased to respond.

Sincerely,

O. Brian Fjeldheim
Chief Electoral Officer

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Message from the Chief Electoral Officer

In fulfilling my responsibilities for the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer, I have relied on a small but dedicated group of employees. Their contributions over the past year have been essential to our success.

Our Office strives to provide a standard of excellence for all Albertans through the impartial and effective administration of the electoral process. This results in public assurance that the provisions of the Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act are administered in a fair and impartial manner.

As we move forward toward the next provincial general election, interest and activity relative to the Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act increases. More individuals are becoming involved in the electoral process either as candidates or in some other capacity. I am continually impressed with the commitment and dedication that these individuals display. Anyone who has been involved in the electoral process knows that committed and dedicated volunteers are the very backbone of our electoral system.

As in past years, my Office continues to receive strong support and encouragement from candidates, constituency associations and political parties. This makes our job much easier and certainly adds a tremendous amount to our job satisfaction. It has always been my opinion that the services and information that this Office provides to either the volunteers or paid staff of any political entity mutually benefits both organizations.

Should any Albertan require additional information on the Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act, I would encourage them to contact this Office by telephone at (780) 427-7191, outside of Edmonton dial the prefix 310-0000, e-mail us at Elections.Alberta@gov.ab.ca or visit our Office.

O. Brian Fjeldheim
Chief Electoral Officer

Part One

The Calendar Year 1999

Overview

The following are some of the major activities and events that occurred during the calendar year 1999:

- Annual financial statements were received and examined from ten registered parties;
- Annual financial statements were received and examined from two hundred and fifty-six constituency associations;
- Two hundred and sixty-four registered constituency associations were included in the Register as of December 31, 1999;
- The Alberta First Party was included in the Register of Political Parties effective November 2, 1999; and
- A Freedom of Information and Privacy request to access electronic records of contributions for a registered political party for the years 1992 to present was refused by the Chief Electoral Officer. The Applicant took the request to the Privacy Commission. The Commission found that the Chief Electoral Office properly refused this request.

Registration Data

Political Parties

Effective December 31, 1999, there were eleven political parties included in the Register of Political Parties, pursuant to Section 6(2) of the Act:

Name (Abbreviation)	Date Registered	Leader	Chief Financial Officer
Alberta First Party (AFP)	November 2,1999	John Reil	Wes Quinton
Alberta Greens (AG)	April 6, 1990	David Parker	Pamela Munroe
Alberta Liberal Party (LIB)	February 3, 1978	Nancy MacBeth	Gary Bentham
Alberta New Democratic Party (NDP)	January 3, 1978	Raj Pannu	Alex Grimaldi
Alberta Party Political Association (APPA)	October 30, 1990	Fred Schorning	Bill Forbes
Alberta Social Credit Party (SC)	January 6, 1978	James Albers	Carl Schwartz
Communist Party - Alberta (CP-A)	January 31, 1979	Naomi Rankin	Blyth Nuttall
Natural Law Party of Alberta (NLP)	May 27, 1993	Maury Shapka	Ric Johnsen
Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta (PC)	January 3, 1978	Ralph Klein	Ron Renaud
Reform Party of Alberta (REF)	August 24, 1989	David Salmon	Betty Unger
The Equity Party (TEP)	March 2, 1995	Barry Pashak	Bruce Hinkley

During the calendar year 1999, the Alberta First Party was included in the Register of Political Parties.

This Office maintains a file containing the names of groups and individuals who have formally requested and received information concerning the procedure to be followed for registering a political party under the Act. As of December 31, 1999, three files remain open for groups that have requested that this Office reserve a particular name for their proposed political party. The current status of activity by these groups is unknown; however, they have been advised that one of the primary requirements for registration is the completion of a petition under Section 5(2)(d) of the Act. The petition must contain a minimum of 5,293 signatures of eligible electors, which represents 0.3% of the number of electors eligible to vote at the 1997 General Election.

Constituency Associations - Registration

During the 1999 calendar year, applications for registration were received and approved for nine constituency associations of registered political parties:

Alberta Liberal Party

Airdrie-Rocky View
Carbston-Taber-Warner
Innisfail-Sylvan Lake
Medicine Hat

The Equity Party

Calgary-Glenmore
Calgary-Mountain View
Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview
Edmonton-Castle Downs

Alberta Social Credit Party

Red Deer-South

Constituency Associations - Deregistration

Alberta Liberal Party

Calgary-North Hill
Grande Prairie-Smoky

Alberta New Democratic Party

Calgary-Buffalo
Edmonton-Whitemud

Alberta Social Credit Party

Calgary-Buffalo
Calgary-Foothills
Calgary-Nose Creek
Edmonton-Strathcona
Innisfail-Sylvan Lake
Lethbridge-West
Stony Plain
Vermilion-Lloydminster
Wainwright

Constituency Associations - Reregistration

There were six requests for reregistration from constituency associations deregistered for failure to submit 1998 annual financial statements:

Alberta Liberal Party

Calgary-North Hill
Grande Prairie-Smoky

Alberta New Democratic Party

Calgary-Buffalo
Edmonton-Whitemud

Alberta Social Credit Party

Vermilion-Lloydminster
Wainwright

Summary of Constituency Association Registrations at December 31, 1999

At December 31, 1999, the number of registered constituency associations of the registered Parties was as follows:

	LIB	NDP	APPA	SC	PC	TEP	TOTAL
Total Registered	82	79	01	15	83	04	264
Electoral Divisions without Registered Constituency Associations	01	04	82	68	Nil	79	234

The Alberta First Party, Alberta Greens, Communist Party - Alberta, Natural Law Party of Alberta, and the Reform Party of Alberta had no registered constituency associations at December 31, 1999.

A chart showing the status of registered constituency associations of each registered political party, by electoral division as of December 31, 1999, is presented on page 15.

Candidates Who Filed Late

Individuals Prohibited From Being Nominated

There are a number of individuals who were candidates at the 1979, 1982, 1986, 1989, 1993 or 1997 General Elections who filed the required Candidate's Campaign Period Financial Statement after the due date and who did not apply for relief to the Court of Queen's Bench. The Chief Electoral Officer presented reports on the matter to the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, pursuant to Section 36(1) of the Act. The individuals named are prohibited from being nominated as candidates in an election for varying specified periods. The prohibition for all the individuals named following the 1982, 1986 and 1989 General Elections has elapsed. The information of these circumstances is available in the Public Files at the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer.

Financial Statements

All political parties and constituency associations registered prior to September 1, 1999 were required to file annual financial statements for 1999 with this Office, on or before March 31, 2000, in accordance with Section 34(1) of the Act. The Alberta First Party was registered on November 2, 1999, therefore, they were not required to file an annual financial statement. The Party must submit their first financial statement by April 2, 2001 for the period November 2, 1999 to December 31, 2000.

Political Parties - 1999 Annual Financial Statements

Eleven political parties were registered with the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer as of December 31, 1999. Only ten of the eleven parties were required to submit a 1999 Annual Financial Statement. Audited 1999 Party Annual Financial Statements were received by March 31, 2000, from the ten registered parties that follow:

Alberta Greens
Alberta Liberal Party
Alberta New Democratic Party
Alberta Party Political Association
Alberta Social Credit Party
Communist Party - Alberta
Natural Law Party of Alberta
Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta
Reform Party of Alberta
The Equity Party

This Report does not include comparisons of the financial support given to each political entity over the twenty-two years in which Party Annual Financial Statements have been required; this information is available in the Public Files at the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer. A summary of the 1999 data appears on page 17. A simplified presentation of the number, category and contributions received in the 1999 calendar year follows:

Alberta Greens

	Total Contribution	Average Contribution
Amounts to $375.00:		
254 contributions from individuals	$ 30,912.	$ 121.70
14 contributions from corporations	1,580.	112.86
Amounts of $375.01 and greater:		
9 contributions from individuals	6,255.	695.00
Total	$ 38,747.	

Alberta Liberal Party

	Total Contribution	Average Contribution
Amounts to $375.00:		
2,640 contributions from individuals	$ 164,820.	$ 62.43
186 contributions from corporations	20,992.	112.86
Amounts of $375.01 and greater:		
302 contributions from individuals	126,228.	417.97
114 contributions from corporations	188,677.	1,655.06
Total	$ 500,717.	

Alberta New Democratic Party

	Total Contribution	Average Contribution
Amounts to $375.00:		
2,411 contributions from individuals	$ 262,257.	$ 108.77
8 contributions from corporations	1,100.	137.50
7 contributions from trade unions	745.	106.43

Alberta New Democratic Party

	Total Contribution	Average Contribution
Amounts of $375.01 and greater:		
137 contributions from individuals	$ 112,000.	$ 817.52
3 contributions from corporations	2,420.	806.67
2 contributions from trade unions	1,000.	500.00
Total	$ 379,522.	

Alberta Party Political Association

	Total Contribution	Average Contribution
Amounts to $375.00:		
24 contributions from individuals	$ 1,033.	$ 43.04
Amounts of $375.01 and greater:		
1 contribution from an individual	1,425.	1,425.00
Total	$ 2,458.	

Alberta Social Credit Party

	Total Contribution	Average Contribution
Amounts to $375.00:		
29 contributions from individuals	$ 2,884.	$ 99.44
1 contribution from a corporation	90.	90.00
Amounts of $375.01 and greater:		
17 contributions from individuals	21,003.	1,235.47
1 contribution from a corporation	15,000.	15,000.00
Total	$ 38,977.	

Communist Party - Alberta

		Total Contribution	Average Contribution
Amounts to $375.00:			
4	contributions from individuals	$ 715.	$ 178.75
	Total	$ 715.	

Natural Law Party of Alberta

		Total Contribution	Average Contribution
Amounts to $375.00:			
21	contributions from individuals	$ 5,005.	$ 238.33
Amounts of $375.01 and greater:			
13	contributions from individuals	10,359.	796.85
1	contribution from a corporation	460.	460.00
	Total	$ 15,824.	

Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta

		Total Contribution	Average Contribution
Amounts to $375.00:			
2,403	contributions from individuals	$ 311,451.	$ 129.61
477	contributions from corporations	98,766.	207.06
Amounts of $375.01 and greater:			
304	contributions from individuals	507,932.	1,670.83
570	contributions from corporations	1,290,213.	2,263.53
	Total	$ 2,208,362.	

Reform Party of Alberta

The party's statement reports no contributions were received during the period ending December 31,1999.

The Equity Party

	Total Contribution	Average Contribution
Amounts to $375.00:		
8 contributions from individuals	$ 1,445.	$ 180.62
Amounts of $375.01 and greater:		
1 contribution from an individual	450.	450.00
Total	$ 1,895.	

Average Contributions to Parties

	Total Contribution	Average Contribution
Amounts to $375.00:		
7,794 contributions from individuals	$ 780,522.	$ 100.14
686 contributions from corporations	122,528.	178.61
7 contributions from trade unions	745.	106.42
Amounts of $375.01 and greater:		
784 contributions from individuals	$ 785,652.	$ 1,002.10
689 contributions from corporations	1,496,770.	2,172.38
2 contributions from trade unions	1,000.	500.00

Constituency Associations - 1999 Annual Financial Statements

Of the two hundred and sixty-four constituency associations registered on December 31, 1999, two hundred and sixty-three were required to file annual financial statements on or prior to March 31, 2000, for the period January 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999. One Alberta Liberal Party constituency association was registered after September 1, 1999 and will not be required to file a 1999 financial statement until 2001 in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act.

Financial statements were received from two hundred and fifty constituency associations by the due date. Two constituency associations of the Alberta Liberal Party, two constituency associations of the Alberta New Democratic Party, and nine constituency associations of the Alberta Social Credit Party failed to file the required annual financial statement by the due date.

Administrative and financial procedures differ significantly between parties, and each party is required to advise this Office of its routine relating to certain procedures. The following information reflects these procedures as it affects the constituency association's authority to accept contributions and to issue official receipts.

Alberta Greens

The Alberta Greens had no constituency associations registered in the 1999 calendar year.

Alberta Liberal Party

Only one of the eighty-two registered constituency associations was authorized to accept contributions in the period January 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999; the association did not report receiving any contributions.

Alberta New Democratic Party

None of the seventy-nine registered constituency associations were authorized to accept contributions in the period January 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999.

Alberta Party Political Association

The one registered constituency association was not authorized to accept contributions in the period January 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999.

Alberta Social Credit Party

All of the fifteen registered constituency associations were authorized to accept contributions in the period January 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999; two reported the receipt of contributions:

	Total Contribution	Average Contribution
Amounts to $375.00:		
21 contributions from individuals	$ 1,223.	$ 58.24
3 contributions from corporations	150.	50.00
Amounts of $375.01 and greater:		
2 contributions from individuals	1,300.	650.00
1 contribution from a corporation	850.	850.00
Total	$ 3,523.	

Communist Party - Alberta

The Communist Party had no constituency associations registered in the 1999 calendar year.

Natural Law Party of Alberta

The Natural Law Party had no constituency associations registered in the 1999 calendar year.

Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta

All of the eighty-three registered constituency associations were authorized to accept contributions in the period January 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999; sixty-eight reported the receipt of contributions:

		Total Contribution	Average Contribution
Amounts to $375.00:			
2,728	contributions from individuals	$ 229,878.	$ 84.27
1,070	contributions from corporations	115,795.	108.22
Amounts of $375.01 and greater:			
142	contributions from individuals	69,072.	486.42
134	contributions from corporations	67,752.	505.61
	Total	$ 482,497.	

Reform Party of Alberta

The Reform Party had no constituency associations registered in the 1999 calendar year.

The Equity Party

None of the four registered constituency associations were authorized to accept contributions in the period January 1, 1999 to December 31,1999.

Average Contributions to Constituency Associations

		Total Contribution	Average Contribution
Amounts to $375.00:			
2,749	contributions from individuals	$ 231,101.	$ 84.07
1,073	contributions from corporations	115,945.	108.06
Amounts of $375.01 and greater:			
144	contributions from individuals	$ 70,372.	$ 488.69
135	contributions from corporations	68,602.	508.16

Political Parties, Constituency Associations 1999 Contribution Totals

Total contributions received by registered parties and constituency associations during 1998 were:

	Party	Constituency Association	Total
Alberta Greens	$ 38,747.	$ Nil	$ 38,747.
Alberta Liberal Party	500,717.	Nil	500,717.
Alberta New Democratic Party	379,522.	Nil	379,522.
Alberta Party Political Association	2,458.	Nil	2,458.
Alberta Social Credit Party	38,977.	3,523.	42,500.
Communist Party - Alberta	715.	Nil	715.
Natural Law Party of Alberta	15,824.	Nil	15,824.
Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta	2,208,362.	482,497.	2,690,859.
Reform Party of Alberta	Nil	Nil	Nil
The Equity Party	1,895.	Nil	1,895.
Total	$ 3,187,217.	$ 486,020.	$ 3,673,237.

Senatorial Selection Act

Financial Statements

The Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act permits registered political parties to maintain continuous annual financial activities between Senatorial Selection Campaigns. Registered parties may accept annual contributions, within prescribed limits, and expend funds for Senatorial Selection purposes. Annual financial statements are required to ensure complete public disclosure of all such transactions.

Only the three registered parties that endorsed a candidate at the 1989 Senatorial Selection Election are required to file an Audited Senatorial Selection Annual Financial Statement. Financial statements were received by March 31, 1999 from the three registered parties that follow:

Alberta Liberal Party
Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta
Reform Party of Alberta

A Senate Nominee Election was held on October 19, 1998. The six candidates who contested the election and the one political party that sponsored two candidates at the election were required to file a senatorial campaign period financial statement. The candidate's financial statements were due in this Office on February 19, 1999, while the party's financial statement was due on April 19, 1999. The relevant details from the various financial statements were included in the Twenty-second Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer, which was published on August 31, 1999.

Political Parties – 1999 Senatorial Annual Financial Statement

The Reform Party was the only party to report financial transactions during the calendar year 1999. Activity details follow:

Reform Party of Alberta

	Total Contribution	Average Contribution
Amounts to $375.00:		
380 contributions from individuals	$ 27,965.	$ 73.59
2 contributions from corporations	250.	125.00
Amounts of $375.01 and greater:		
8 contributions from individuals	$ 5,150.	$ 643.75
Total	$ 33,365.	

A summary of the 1999 data appears on page 18.

Status of Constituency Associations Of Registered Political Parties at December 31, 1999

("R" = registered, "-" = not registered, "X" = deregistered)

	Electoral Division	LIB	NDP	APPA	SC	PC	TEP
01	Athabasca-Wabasca	R	R	-	-	R	-
02	Lesser Slave Lake	R	R	-	-	R	-
03	Calgary-Bow	R	R	-	-	R	-
04	Calgary-Buffalo	R	R	-	X	R	-
05	Calgary-Cross	R	R	-	-	R	-
06	Calgary-Currie	R	R	X	-	R	-
07	Calgary-East	R	-	-	-	R	-
08	Calgary-Egmont	R	R	R	-	R	-
09	Calgary-Elbow	R	-	-	-	R	-
10	Calgary-Fish Creek	R	R	-	-	R	-
11	Calgary-Foothills	R	R	-	X	R	-
12	Calgary-Fort	R	-	-	R	R	-
13	Calgary-Glenmore	R	R	-	-	R	R
14	Calgary-Lougheed	R	R	-	-	R	-
15	Calgary-McCall	-	R	-	-	R	-
16	Calgary-Montrose	R	R	-	-	R	-
17	Calgary-Mountain View	R	R	-	-	R	R
18	Calgary-North Hill	R	R	-	-	R	-
19	Calgary-North West	R	R	-	-	R	-
20	Calgary-Nose Creek	R	R	-	X	R	-
21	Calgary-Shaw	R	R	-	-	R	-
22	Calgary-Varsity	R	R	-	-	R	-
23	Calgary-West	R	R	-	-	R	-
24	Edmonton-Beverly-Clareview	R	R	-	-	R	R
25	Edmonton-Calder	R	R	-	-	R	-
26	Edmonton-Castle Downs	R	R	-	-	R	-
27	Edmonton-Centre	R	R	-	-	R	R
28	Edmonton-Ellerslie	R	R	-	-	R	-
29	Edmonton-Glengarry	R	R	-	-	R	-
30	Edmonton-Glenora	R	R	-	-	R	-
31	Edmonton-Gold Bar	R	R	-	-	R	-
32	Edmonton-Highlands	R	R	-	-	R	-
33	Edmonton-Manning	R	R	-	-	R	-
34	Edmonton-McClung	R	R	-	R	R	-
35	Edmonton-Meadowlark	R	R	-	-	R	-
36	Edmonton-Mill Creek	R	R	-	-	R	-
37	Edmonton-Mill Woods	R	R	-	-	R	-
38	Edmonton-Norwood	R	R	-	-	R	-
39	Edmonton-Riverview	R	R	-	-	R	-
40	Edmonton-Rutherford	R	R	-	R	R	-
41	Edmonton-Strathcona	R	R	-	X	R	-
42	Edmonton-Whitemud	R	R	-	-	R	-
43	Airdrie-Rocky View	R	R	-	-	R	-
44	Banff-Cochrane	R	R	-	-	R	-
45	Barrhead-Westlock	R	R	-	-	R	-

	Electoral Division	LIB	NDP	APPA	SC	PC	TEP
46	Bonnyville-Cold Lake	R	R	-	R	R	-
47	Cardston-Taber-Warner	R	R	-	-	R	-
48	Clover Bar-Fort Saskatchewan	R	R	-	-	R	-
49	Cypress-Medicine Hat	R	R	-	R	R	-
50	Drayton Valley-Calmar	R	R	-	-	R	-
51	Drumheller-Chinook	R	R	-	R	R	-
52	Dunvegan	R	R	-	-	R	-
53	Fort McMurray	R	R	-	-	R	-
54	Grande Prairie-Smoky	R	R	-	-	R	-
55	Grande Prairie-Wapiti	R	-	-	R	R	-
56	Highwood	R	R	-	-	R	-
57	Innisfail-Sylvan Lake	R	R	-	X	R	-
58	Lac La Biche-St. Paul	R	R	-	-	R	-
59	Lacombe-Stettler	R	R	-	-	R	-
60	Leduc	R	R	-	-	R	-
61	Lethbridge-East	R	R	-	R	R	-
62	Lethbridge-West	R	R	-	X	R	-
63	Little Bow	R	R	-	-	R	-
64	Livingstone-Macleod	R	R	-	-	R	-
65	Medicine Hat	R	R	-	-	R	-
66	Olds-Didsbury-Three Hills	R	R	-	R	R	-
67	Peace River	R	R	-	-	R	-
68	Ponoka-Rimbey	R	R	-	-	R	-
69	Red Deer-North	R	R	-	-	R	-
70	Red Deer-South	R	R	-	R	R	-
71	Redwater	R	R	-	R	R	-
72	Rocky Mountain House	R	R	-	R	R	-
73	St. Albert	R	R	-	-	R	-
74	Sherwood Park	R	R	-	-	R	-
75	Spruce Grove-Sturgeon-St. Albert	R	R	-	-	R	-
76	Stony Plain	R	R	-	-	R	-
77	Strathmore-Brooks	R	R	-	-	R	-
78	Vegreville-Viking	R	R	-	-	R	-
79	Vermilion-Lloydminster	R	R	-	R	R	-
80	Wainwright	R	R	-	R	R	-
81	West Yellowhead	R	R	-	-	R	-
82	Wetaskiwin-Camrose	R	R	-	R	R	-
83	Whitecourt-Ste. Anne	R	R	-	-	R	-

Summary of 1999 Annual Financial Statements
Registered Political Parties

Registered Political Parties	Amounts to $375.00	Amounts of $375.01 and greater	Other Revenue	Total Annual Revenue	Funds Transferred	Annual Expenses	Total Annual Expenses	Surplus (Deficit)
AG	32,492	6,255	257	39,004	Nil	34,106	34,106	4,898
LIB	185,811	314,906	113,723	614,440	154,736	321,585	476,321	138,119
NDP	264,102	115,420	68,640	448,162	66,718	377,031	443,749	4,413
APPA	1,033	1,425	1,076	3,534	Nil	4,357	4,357	(823)
SC	2,974	36,003	16,131	55,108	Nil	48,041	48,041	7,067
CP-A	715	Nil	Nil	715	Nil	291	291	424
NLP	5,005	10,819	2,701	18,525	Nil	18,022	18,022	503
PC	410,217	1,798,145	301,848	2,510,210	Nil	1,793,960	1,793,960	716,250
REF	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TEP	1,445	450	180	2,075	Nil	1,417	1,417	658

Note: The information presented above represents financial data at December 31, 1999 in capsule form. For information on prior years, reference should be made to the Public Files maintained in this Office (see page 20).

Summary of 1999 Senatorial Selection Financial Statements
Registered Political Parties

Registered Political Parties	Amounts to $375.00	Amounts of $375.01 and greater	Other Revenue	Total Annual Revenue	Funds Transferred	Annual Expenses	Total Annual Expenses	Surplus (Deficit)
LIB	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
PC	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
REF	28,215	5,150	Nil	33,365	Nil	55,433	55,433	(22,068)

Note: The information presented above represents financial data at December 31, 1999 in capsule form. For information on prior years, reference should be made to the Public Files maintained in this Office (see page 20).

Part Two - General Information

Income Tax Credit Allowance - 1998

The Office of Budget and Management, Tax Policy of Alberta Treasury provided information obtained from Canada Customs and Revenue Agency concerning the 1998 income tax credits for political contributions allowed to individual and corporate taxpayers who paid Alberta income tax.

Although the following information is one year after the fact, it may be of general interest:

1998 contributions, by individuals, to parties	$ 1,400,091
1998 contributions, by corporations, to parties	$ 1,542,977
1998 contributions, by trade unions, to parties	$ 4,025

(All the above include contributions made during the 1998 calendar year)

1998 contributions, by individuals, to constituency associations	$ 190,367
1998 contributions, by corporations, to constituency associations	$ 143,136
1998 contributions, by trade unions, to constituency associations	Nil

1998 contributions, by individuals, to candidates	$ 266,570
1998 contributions, by corporations, to candidates	$ 90,913
1998 contributions, by trade unions, to candidates	Nil

(This includes contributions made during the Edmonton-McClung By-election and the 1998 Senate Nominee Election)

1998 income tax credit allowed to individuals	$ 920,000
1998 income tax credit allowed to corporations	$ 205,554

Three factors should be considered when reviewing this information:

a. taxpayers do not receive income tax credits unless they submit an Official Receipt for the contribution;

b. if there is no Alberta income tax payable, no income tax credit is allowed; and

c. the amount of income tax credit allowed is based on a declining percentage calculation of the total contribution; the maximum tax credit of $750.00 is reached with a contribution of $1,725.00.

Note: In consideration of the foregoing factors, a direct percentage comparison of the income tax credit allowed to the total amount contributed may not necessarily be valid.

Funds Held in Trust by the Office of the Chief Electoral Officer

At the date of this Report, the Chief Electoral Officer is not holding any funds in trust for any party, constituency association or candidate whose registration has been cancelled or for any other reason.

Public Files

The Public Files, which contain information concerning political financing of registered political organizations in Alberta, now contain data for twenty-two consecutive calendar years including the 1979, 1982, 1986, 1989, 1993 and 1997 General Elections, the fifteen by-elections held since January 1, 1978 and the Senate Nominee Elections held in 1989 and 1998. Interest in examining these records usually peaks when the candidates, constituency associations and parties file the required campaign period or annual financial statements.

All financial statements are contained in the Public Files maintained by this Office and are available for examination, 8:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday to Friday. Photocopies of data maintained in the Public Files are available at a rate prescribed under authority of Section 10(2) of the Election Finances and Contributions Disclosure Act. Copies of all reports published by the Chief Electoral Officer are available to the public at no cost.

Events of Interest Since March 31, 2000

The following events have taken place between the end of the filing year, March 31, 2000 and the date this report was published; each of these subjects will be addressed in detail in the Twenty-fourth Annual Report of the Chief Electoral Officer.

- Thirteen constituency associations were deregistered for failure to submit the 1999 annual financial statement by March 31, 2000. Six subsequently filed the required financial statements and applied for reregistration.

- Seven constituency associations have applied for registration.

- By-elections were held in two electoral divisions. The Edmonton-Highlands by-election was held June 12, 2000, and the Red Deer-North by-election was held on September 25, 2000.